

Message Text

PAGE 01 FORT L 01526 131510Z

42

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 EUR-06 ISO-00 IO-09 FDRE-00 SSO-00

DODE-00 IGA-02 /043 W

----- 083678

O R 131300Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6985

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L FORT LAMY 1526

E.O. 11652: GDS

AFDROUGHT

AIDAC

NIAMEY FOR WILLIAMS

SUBJ: SAHEL TASK FORCE

REF: (A) AID/W - NEHER TELECON SEPT 11

(B) PARIS 23936

1. SUMMARY. MISSION CUT OUT FOR TASK FORCE IS ONE THAT BADLY NEEDS
DOING IN CHAD AND WE WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO RECAST PROPOSED PROJECTS,
IDENTIFY NEW ONES AND REARRANGE OUR PRIORITIES. HOWEVER, US IS NOT
A MAJOR AID DONOR TO CHAD EITHER IN OR OUT OF DROUGHT CONTEXT. IT HAS
BEEN US POLICY TO MAINTAIN MODEST AID PRESENCE HERE, BUT TO BE
READY ALWAYS TO HELP IN CASE OF NEED. SENDING OF 20-MAN TASK
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 FORT L 01526 131510Z

FORCE (REF A) TO CHAD REPRESENTS MAJOR CHANGE IN US DIRECTION, FOR
NO AMOUNT OF CAUTIONING WILL CONVINCE CHADIANS AND DONOR COMMUNITY
THAT THE OLD AID RELATIONSHIP WILL PREVAIL. MOREOVER, THINNESS
OF GOC TECHNICAL LEVELS MEANS TASK FORCE CAN EXPECT LITTLE

SATISFACTORY EXCHANGE WITH MOST MINISTRIES. WE WILL HAVE TROUBLE FINDING COMPETENT INTERLOCUTORS FOR MOST OF THE SPECIALIZED TASK FORCE MEMBERS. END SUMMARY.

2. FALLING SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE STOOLS OF ADO IN YAOUNDE (WHO RECEIVES LESS THAN HALF OUR AFDROUGHT TRAFFIC) AND TDY DROUGHT PROGRAM OFFICER AT NIAMEY (WHO HAS NOW DEPARTED) WE HAVE BEEN UNDERSERVED IN THE BUSINESS OF REARRANGING OUR AID PRIORITIES AND REAPPRAISING OUR AID PROPOSALS TO REFLECT CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY DROUGHT. WE ARE STILL DOING LAST YEAR'S THING AND ARE VERY MUCH OUT OF STYLE. WE THEREFORE WELCOME OBJECTIVES OF TASK FORCE AS FORCEFUL AND ACCELERATED MEANS OF REVAMPING OUR PROGRAM.

3. IT HAS BEEN US POLICY TO BE RESPONSIVE TO CHADIAN NEEDS BUT TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION THAT WE WOULD BECOME A MAJOR AID DONOR. AID'S POLICY OF REGIONAL AND SECTORAL PREFERENCES AND OUR CONVICTION THAT WE DO NOT WISH TO BECOME ALTERNATIVE TO FRANCE AS IMPORTANT SOURCE OF CONTINUING FUNDS FOR THIS IMPOVERISHED COUNTRY HAVE RESULTED IN OUR LARGEST CONTRIBUTIONS BEING SELF-HELP AND PEACE CORPS, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE CONSTANTLY SEARCHED, ALONG WITH GOC AND OTHER DONORS, FOR VALID PROJECTS. EXCEPT FOR STUDIES AND ENGINEERING DESIGNS, WE HAVE NO BILATERAL AID PROJECTS OF STATURE. WE ARE, HOWEVER, MOVING VERY WELL TOWARD A COMMITMENT OF TWO TO THREE MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE SATEGUI-DERESSIA RICE PROJECT. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN PRESENTED WITH A GOC PROPOSAL FOR RURAL WATER DEVELOPMENT BUT MOST OF THE LATTER IS OUTSIDE DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS.

4. IN DROUGHT CONTEXT WE HAVE LOOKED INTO STORAGE, TRANSPORT, RURAL HYDROLOGY, LIVESTOCK AND PUBLIC HEALTH POSSIBILITIES. HERE IS WHERE WE CAME OUT:

(A) STORAGE. FAO EXPERT GAUZIN RECOMMENDED CONSTRUCTION 30,000 TON GRAIN STORAGE CAPACITY BEFORE NEXT RAINY SEASON. WHILE WE WERE DISCUSSING POSSIBLE US ROLE, IBRD TEAM PRESENTED GOC WITH PROPOSAL FOR IMMEDIATE CONSTRUCTION 7000 TON CAPACITY NEW STORAGE. REF B SENT CASE TO AID/W WHICH DECLINED TO GET INTO CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 FORT L 01526 131510Z

STORAGE IN DROUGHT CONTEXT.

(B) TRANSPORT: GOC HAS CONTINUOUSLY MAINTAINED IT NEEDS LANDROVERS FOR ITS PREFECTURAL AUTHORITIES AND TRUCKS FOR GRAIN HAULING. BECAUSE OF SERVICE PROBLEMS AND LACK OF REPAIR CAPABILITY FOR US VEHICLES WE TRIED TO STAY AWAY FROM THIS AREA. FED IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF ROAD BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE FUNDS AND WE DO NOT WISH TO ENTER THE COMPETITION IN CHAD.

(C) RURAL HYDROLOGY: WE HAVE AN ONGOING PEACE CORPS WELLS PROGRAM WHICH WORKS VERY POORLY BECAUSE OF UNSATISFACTORY GOC ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. GOC LIKES THE PROGRAM BUT CANNOT SEEM TO KEEP A PIPELINE OF PARTS, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. A MAJOR PART

OF GOC'S PROPOSAL FOR US FINANCING OF RURAL HYDROLOGY PROGRAM WOULD BE FOR ADDITIONAL "PEACE CORPS TYPE" AZILS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE WHOLE PROPOSAL HAS ONLY CASUAL RELATIONSHIP TO DROUGHT RECOVERY.

(D) LIVESTOCK: FED CAME IN EARLY WITH EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK PROTECTION PROJECT INCLUDING DEPARASITING, INNOCULATIONS, TREATMENT IDEMNITIES TO HERDERS AND CATTLE-FEED PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. FED HAS HAD TROUBLE SPENDING ALL THE AVAILABLE MONEY AND THERE IS NO ROOM FOR US THERE. A BROAD FACT, IBRD, FED, UN AND US LIVESTOCK PROJECT FOR CHAD HAS NOW BEEN OVERTAKEN BY (1) THE DECIMATION OF HERDS AND (2) A FRENCH BILATERAL PRE-EMPTION OF SOME OF THE BEST REMAINING PARTS. WE HAVE COOLED ON THIS ONE. WE ARE HELPING GOC MAINTAIN FEED MILL EQUIPMENT AND WILL SUPPLY MODEST QUANTITIES OF SPARE PARTS FOR MACHINES AND BAGS FOR SACKING.

(E) PUBLIC HEALTH: NO GOC AGENCY HAS YET IDENTIFIED AN UNUSUAL SITUATION OR NEED. THE MINISTRY IS ONE OF LEAST EFFECTIVE IN CHAD BOTH IN FORMULATION AND EXECUTION OF PROJECTS.

(F) AGRICULTURE: SEE SATEGUI-DERESSIA REFERENCE ABOVE.

5. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF TASK FORCE (20-MAN STRONG ACCORDING TO REF-TELECON) SIGNAL AN ABRUPT CHANGE IN OUR AID RELATIONSHIP TO CHAD, WHETHER OR NOT THAT IS INTENDED. CONCEPT OF SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS WITH GOC AND OTHER DONOR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL ON LIVESTOCK, HEALTH AND, INDEED, FULL SPECTRUM OF DROUGHT-CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 FORT L 01526 131510Z

RELATED CONCERNS, WHICH IS THE WAY PROGRAM FOR VISIT MUST BE CONSTRUCTED, WILL MAKE THIS TASK FORCE VISIT BIGGEST THING IN FOREIGN AID PICTURE THAT CHAD HAS SEEN. EXPECTATIONS WILL BE PROPORTIONATE TO TOTAL IMPACT OF VISIT. ALTHOUGH AUDIBERT HAS SHOWN COMPREHENSION, HIS FIELD PERSONNEL. ALONG WITH THOSE OF FED, UN, WEST GERMANY, CHINA ET AL. IN CHAD WILL BE HARD TO CONVINCE THAT WE HAVE LESS THAN MASSIVE INTENTIONS. PROBLEM WILL ARISE IF WE CANNOT FULFILL THESE EXPECTATIONS OR IF TASK FORCE OR AID/W PERSONNEL EXPECT GOC TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROJECTS, EITHER IN MANPOWER OR MONEY. MEMBERS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT ANY PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR EXECUTION MUST HAVE VIRTUALLY 100 PERCENT DONOR FINANCING INCLUDING LOCAL CURRENCY COSTS.

6. AT RISK OF APPEARING NEGATIVE TOWARD TASK FORCE, I WONDER IF FOR THE CHAD PORTION IT MIGHT BE SCALED DOWN SOMEWHAT. WE VERY MUCH NEED THE KIND OF REVIEW TASK FORCE WILL BE CAPABLE OF MAKING, BUT I THINK IT CAN BE DONE MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH A SOMEWHAT LOWER PROFILE. I OFFER THIS AS A SUGGESTION BUT WILL YIELD OF COURSE TO WHATEVER DECISION IS MADE. STAFF AND I WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ASSURE MOST SUCCESSFUL VISIT.
NEHER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973FORTL01526
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: FORT LAMY
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730963/abqceevf.tel
Line Count: 164
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) AID/W - NEHER TELECON SEPT 11 (B) PARIS 23936
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Aug-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <02-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAHEL TASK FORCE
TAGS: SWEL, CD
To: STATE
NIAMEY INFO ABIDJAN
BAMAKO
DAKAR
NOUAKCHOTT
OUAGADOUGOU
PARIS

EC BRUSSELS

YAOUNDE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005